

### REMARKS

Below, the applicant's comments are preceded by related remarks of the examiner set forth in small bold font.

**Claims 1-5, 9-10, 17, 20, and 23-26 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cutler, Jr. et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5572,512).**

**Referring to claim 1: Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system (figures 1 and 3) routing table with node ID (figure 4); filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of a second node device. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storing the node ID information of the second node device on a storage device located on a first node device wherein the first node device connected to the second node device, and the second node device includes a storage device containing node ID information for a third node device connected to the second node device. Hence, claim is anticipated by Cutler.**

Claim 1 as amended includes "retrieving, from a storage device of the second node device, node ID information for a third node device." In Cutler's system, "each satellite 12 desirably has at least one resident routing table which the satellite 12 updates using information received from the System Control Station 24" (col. 3, lines 42-44). In Cutler's system, the System Control Station (SCS) "creates routing table update commands (RTUCs) and sends them to satellites 12. Satellites 12 use the RTUCs to modify their resident routing table" (col. 4, lines 11-14). Cutler describes another arrangement in which the System Control Station sends "entire routing tables to satellites 12 to accommodate system changes rather than sending RTUCs which are used to modify existing tables" (col. 4, lines 19-21). Cutler's use of a centralized system control station in communication with the nodes to update the routing tables is substantially different from (and neither describes nor suggests) the applicant's system in which a particular node retrieves "from a storage device of the second node device, node ID information for a third node device."

**Referring to claim 2...**

Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice.

**Referring to claim 3...**

**Referring to claim 4...**

**Referring to claim 5...**

Claims 3-5 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

**Referring to claim 9:** Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system routing table with node ID (figure 4); filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of a first node device. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storing the node ID information of the first node device on a storage device located on a second node device wherein the first node device connected to the second node device. Hence, claim is anticipated by Cutler.

As amended, claim 9 includes retrieving node ID information of a first node device of a multi-node computer system from the first node device and storing the node ID information on a storage device located on a second node device.

As described above, Cutler sends routing table update commands from a System Control Station to update a routing table for a particular node. Updating the routing table based on commands from a System Control Station is substantially different from (and does not describe or suggest) "retrieving node ID information of a first node device... from the first node" as in the applicant's claim 9.

**Referring to claim 10...**

Claim 10 is patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 9.

**Referring to claim 17:** Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system routing table with node ID (figure 4), and the software/firmware to carry out the execution is a computer program. Filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of a second node device. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storing the node ID information of the second node device on a storage device located on a first node device wherein the first node device connected to the second node device, and the second node device includes a storage device containing node ID information for a third node device connected to the second node device. Hence, claim is anticipated by Cutler.

Claim 17 includes similar limitations to claim 1 and is patentable for at least similar reasons as claim 1.

**Referring to claim 20:** Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system routing table with node ID (figure 4), and the device executes the routing algorithm is the processor, and each node's storage device for the routing table is the memory. Filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of a second node device. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other

neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storing the node ID information of the second node device on a storage device located on a first node device wherein the first node device connected to the second node device, and the second node device includes a storage device containing node ID information for a third node device connected to the second node device. Hence, claim is anticipated by Cutler.

Claim 20 includes similar limitations to claim 1 and is patentable for at least similar reasons as claim 1.

Referring to claim 23: Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system routing table with node ID (figure 4); filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of a second node device. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storing the node ID information of the second node device on a storage device located on a fast node device wherein the first node device connected to the second node device, and the second node device includes a storage device containing node ID information for a third node device connected to the second node device. Hence, claim is anticipated by Cutler.

Claim 23 includes similar limitations to claim 1 and is patentable for at least similar reasons as claim 1.

Referring to claim 24...

Claim 24 is patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 23.

Referring to claim 25: Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system routing table with node ID (figure 4); filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of a second node device. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storing the node ID information of the second node device on a storage device located on a fast node device wherein the first node device connected to the second node device. Hence, claim is anticipated by Cutler.

Claim 25 includes similar limitations to claim 9 and is patentable for at least similar reasons as claim 9.

Referring to claim 26...

Claim 24 is patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 23.

Referring to claim 6...  
Referring to claim 7...  
Referring to claim 8...  
Referring to claim 11...  
Referring to claim 12...

Referring to claim 13...  
Referring to claim 14...  
Referring to claim 16...  
Referring to claim 18...  
Referring to claims 19 and 21-22...

Claims 6-8, 11-14, 16, 17, 19, and 21-22 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claims on which they depend.

10. Claims 27-30 are rejected under 35 U. S. C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Khare et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,487,643) and Cutler.

Referring to claim 27: Khare discloses a multi-port switch (figure 1, structure 140) containing a plurality of ports, I/O hub controller connected to one of said ports (figure 1, structure 151), a scalable node controller connected to one of said ports (figure 1, structures 110, 120, and 130), and at least one microprocessor (figure 1, structures 111 and 112) connected to said scalable node controller. Khare discloses that each node/device is known to have its own ID for transmitting data properly (column 5, line 11), but Khare does not explicitly teach the node ID discovery process and the switch's storage device containing the node ID information for the hub controller.

Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system (figures 1 and 3) routing table with node ID (figure 4); filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of each device, including the switch's node ID. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storage process for each node's ID information, including storing the switch's node ID at its neighboring node controller.

Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which includes both the I/O hub controller and the switch. The storage means for the routing table is the claimed storage device.

Hence, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the computer art to combine Cutler's teaching onto the Khare because Cutler teaches a way to balance the traffic loads and to differentially route a data packet based on its type (Cutler, column 2, lines 22-26), and Cutler teaches that it would be obvious to one of skill in the art to adapt his invention to any communication links.

The examiner states that "Khare does not explicitly teach the node ID discovery process" and relies on Cutler to teach the node ID discovery process. As described above, Cutler uses of a centralized system control station in communication with the nodes to update the routing tables. Thus, Cutler disclose or suggest "retrieving the node ID information of said multi-port switch from said multi-port switch." Thus, even if Khare were combined with Cutler it would not make obvious the invention of claim 27.

Referring to claim 28...

Claim 28 is patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 27.

Referring to claim 29: Khare discloses a multi-port switch (figure 1, structure 140) containing a plurality of ports, I/O hub controller connected to one of said ports (figure 1, structure 151), a scalable node controller connected to one of said ports (figure 1, structures 110, 120, and 130), and at least one microprocessor (figure 1, structures 111 and 112) connected to said scalable node controller. Khare discloses that each node/device is known to have its own ID for transmitting data properly (column 5, line 11), but Khare does not explicitly teach the node ID discovery process and the switch's storage device containing the node ID information for the hub controller.

Cutler discloses a communication multiple node system (figures 1 and 3) routing table with node ID (figure 4); filling the routing table's node ID is the determining the node ID information of each device, including the I/O hub's node ID. Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which is the storage process for each node's ID information, including storing the I/O hub's node ID at its neighboring node controller.

Cutler discloses that each node stores the node ID of other neighboring nodes on its own routing table (column 1, lines 44-47, column 3, lines 42-46), which includes the switch controller. The storage means for the routing table is the claimed storage device.

Hence, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the computer art to combine Cutler's teaching onto the Khare because Cutler teaches a way to balance the traffic loads and to differentially route a data packet based on its type (Cutler, column 2, lines 22-26), and Cutler teaches that it would be obvious to one of skill in the art to adapt his invention to any communication links.

Claim 29 includes similar limitations to claim 9 and is patentable for at least similar reasons as claim 9.

Referring to claim 30...

Claim 30 is patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 29.

The fact that the applicant has addressed certain positions of the examiner in this response should not be construed as a concession with respect to any other positions of the examiner. The fact that the applicants have made certain arguments for the patentability of certain claims should not be construed as a concession by the applicant that there are not other good reasons for the patentability of those claims or other claims.

The applicant asks that all claims be allowed.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing attorney docket no. 10559-636001.

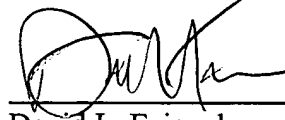
Applicant : Linda J. Rankin et al.  
Serial No. : 10/029,555  
Filed : December 20, 2001  
Page : 15 of 15

Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-636001 / P12340

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

11/15/01



David L. Feigenbaum  
Reg. No. 30,378

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
225 Franklin Street  
Boston, MA 02110-2804  
Telephone: (617) 542-5070  
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

20915632.doc